



MURIEL BOWSER
MAYOR

January 13, 2021

The Honorable Phil Mendelson, Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
The John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 504
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

Enclosed for consideration by the Council is the "January 2021 Public Emergency Extension Authorization Emergency Amendment Act of 2021" and the accompanying emergency declaration resolution. This legislation would authorize the extension of the state of emergency declared on January 6, 2021, which currently is set to expire on the afternoon of January 21, 2021.

We are in reasonable apprehension that persons who disbelieve the results of the November election of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris to be the President and Vice President plan to return to Washington, DC to cause further disruption, damage, and violence, and that their actions — necessitating emergency preparedness and response — may not cease with the swearing-in ceremonies on January 20, 2021.

Under current law, however, the state of emergency may not be extended beyond January 21, 2021, without legislative action by the Council. The enclosed legislation, therefore, would authorize the state of emergency to be extended to Friday, February 5, 2021.

I urge the Council's prompt and favorable consideration of this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Muriel Bowser". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "M" and "B".

Muriel Bowser

Enclosure


Chairman Phil Mendelson
at the request of the Mayor

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to provide authority to the Executive to extend the declaration of a public emergency.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “January 2021 Public Emergency Extension Authorization Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2021.”

See. 2. (a) On January 6, 2021 a large group of insurrectionists stormed and breached the United States Capitol – an unprecedented attack on our democratic government that was fulfilling its Constitutionally mandated responsibilities.

(b) Their insurrection has resulted in the loss of life, including those of sworn law enforcement officers. Bombs were planted. Insurrections briefly seized control of the Senate chambers. They were hunting for elected officials; they erected a makeshift gallows; brought and wielded weapons and many wore racist insignia. Many persons came to the District armed and for the purpose of engaging in violence and destruction. They have fired chemical irritants, and assaulted persons with bricks, bottles, and guns.

(c) The events on January 6, 2021 and the reasonable apprehension of an ongoing public emergency represent an immediate threat to the health, safety, and welfare of District residents that requires emergency protective actions.

32 (d) In partial response, on January 6, 2021 Mayor Bowser issued Mayor's Order 2021-
33 003 extending the declaration of a public emergency made earlier in the day for an additional 15
34 days to January 21, 2021.

35 (e) We are in reasonable apprehension that persons who disbelieve the results of the
36 November election of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris to be the President and Vice President plan
37 to return to Washington, DC to cause further disruption, damage, and violence, and that their
38 actions — necessitating emergency preparedness and response — may not cease with the
39 swearing-in ceremonies on January 20, 2021, as they dispute the validity of the election and the
40 lawfulness of the next President of the United States.

41 (f) Without Council authorization, the state of emergency may not be extended beyond
42 January 21, 2021, despite the potential for additional large-scale and/or violent events, which
43 may present a threat to the safety of our residents and visitors.

44 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances
45 enumerated in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the January
46 2021 Public Emergency Extension Authorization Emergency Amendment Act of 2021 be
47 adopted after a single reading.

48 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.